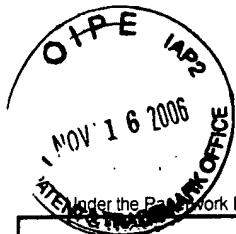


11-20-06



11/16/06

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/798,014
		Filing Date	March 10, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Tae-ahn JAHNG
		Art Unit	3733
		Examiner Name	J. Cumberledge
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket Number	559552000120

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (1 page plus duplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages) <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO/SB/08a/b Form (1 page) References (2) Return Receipt Postcard
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div>		

CUSTOMER NO. 25225

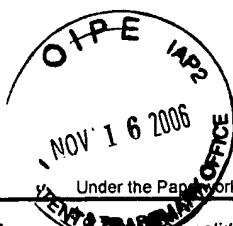
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Richard C. Kim		
Date	November 16, 2006	Reg. No.	40,046

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 761644860 US, on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to:
MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: November 16, 2006

Signature:  (Lenay Rogus)



Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2006

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 180.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/798,014
Filing Date	March 10, 2004
First Named Inventor	Tae-ahn JAHNG
Examiner Name	J. Cumberledge
Art Unit	3733
Attorney Docket No.	559552000120

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify): _____

Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 03-1952 Deposit Account Name: Morrison & Foerster LLP

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayment of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 Credit any overpayments

FEE CALCULATION (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Small Entity

Fee (\$) **Fee (\$)**

50 25

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

200 100

Multiple dependent claims

360 180

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 20 =	x	=	

Multiple Dependent Claims	
Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 3 =	x	=	

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

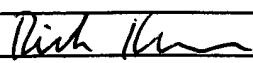
If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
- 100 =	/50	(round up to a whole number) x	=	

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

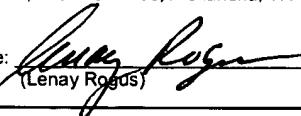
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): 1806 Submission of an Information Disclosure Statement 180.00

SUBMITTED BY			
Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,046 Telephone (858) 720-5142
Name (Print/Type)	Richard C. Kim	Date	November 16, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 761644860 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

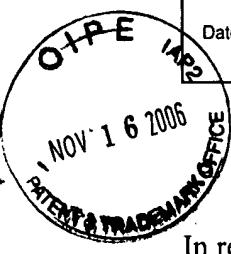
Dated: November 16, 2006

Signature:


(Lenay Rogers)

Patent

Docket No. 559552000120



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tae-ahn JAHNG

Serial No.: 10/798,014

Filing Date: March 10, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FLEXIBLE FIXATION OF A SPINE

Examiner: J. Cumberledge

Group Art Unit: 3733

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the non-patent documents are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

Documents 2, 9, 10, 14 and 15 listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b were cited in International Search Reports mailed on August 14, 2006 and September 20, 2006, directed to a counterpart international or foreign application and have not been previously cited.

sd-323329

11/20/2006 RFEKA011 00000059 031952
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This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
 - A fee is required. A check in the amount of __ is enclosed.
 - A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
 - A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
 - A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of __ is enclosed.
 - A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **559552000120**.

Dated: November 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Richard C. Kim
Registration No.: 40,046
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
12531 High Bluff Drive
Suite 100
San Diego, California 92130-2040
(858) 720-5142



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	559552000120
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
1.	US-Re. 36,221		06/1999	Breard et al.	
2.	US-2,379,577		07/1945	Harsted	
3.	US-3,635,233		01/1972	Robertson	
4.	US-3,669,133		06/1972	Hyman	
5.	US-4,483,562		11/1984	Schoolman	
6.	US-4,979,531		12/1990	Toor et al.	
7.	US-5,029,847		07/1991	Ross	
8.	US-5,133,716		07/1992	Plaza	
9.	US-5,246,442		09/1993	Ashman et al.	
10.	US-5,251,611		10/1993	Zehel et al.	
11.	US-5,387,213		02/1995	Breard et al.	
12.	US-5,688,275		11/1997	Koros et al.	
13.	US-6,296,644		10/2001	Saurat et al.	
14.	US-6,475,220		11/2002	Whiteside	
15.	US-6,589,246		07/2003	Hack et al.	
16.	US-2003/0171749		09/2003	Le Couedic et al.	
17.	US-2004/0138661		07/2004	Bailey	
18.	US-2004/0143264		07/2004	McAfee	
19.	US-2004/0147928		07/2004	Landry et al.	
20.	US-2004/0172025		09/2004	Drewry et al.	
21.	US-2004/0236327		11/2004	Paul et al.	
22.	US-2004/0236328		11/2004	Paul et al.	
23.	US-2005/0033295		02/2005	Wisnewski	
24.	US-2005/0033299		02/2005	Shluzas	
25.	US-2005/0038432		02/2005	Shaolian et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	26.	International Search Report for PCT/US05/46659, mailed on 14 August 2006, 3 pages	
	27.	International Search Report for PCT/US05/44372, mailed on 20 September 2006, 3 pages	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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sd- 323309